

National Prohibition the Remedy

Under the late decision of the U. S. Supreme court, and according to the following, which we clip from the *Wichita Journal*, we are more fully convinced of the necessity of a prohibitory amendment to the United States constitution. The *Journal* says:

SHUT UP.

Barney Kelley may rave and rant about prohibition but if he can tell the people of Kansas how they can get around the original package decision of our court we would be pleased to hear from him. The matter simmered down means that the life has been knocked out of prohibition. By this decision our Prohibition friends may appeal to congress for redress, and if congress should reiterate in substance the same supreme court would declare it unconstitutional. This court is good for at least twenty-five years, and as long as this court exists this decision will stand and as long as it stands prohibition is a dead letter. Why? Because the government recognizes liquor as a property, and the subject of transportation and commerce, and so long as it has this status a state cannot prohibit its introduction and sale. Good bye, Barney. Good bye, intolerance. Welcome Reason, Immigration, Prosperity!

Now then, if the government recognizes intoxicating liquors as property, subject to transportation the same as any other article of commerce, then the state cannot prohibit its introduction and sale, and any law enacted by congress prohibiting its being transported and sold in any state would be decided unconstitutional by the United States supreme court. Thus, we see under this state of affairs that state prohibition, or even what is called local option, is knocked into smithereens, and that the will of the people of a state is powerless in protecting themselves against the liquor curse. The aforesaid decision knocks the wind out of the argument or humbug that prohibiting the liquor traffic is simply a local question and not national. It also upsets the absurdity of non-partisan action in prohibition. It also settles the question beyond a doubt, that the only way to procure national and state prohibition is in and through a national political party that will, among other needed reforms, procure an amendment to the United States constitution prohibiting the importation, manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and then six men out of nine on the United States supreme bench cannot corner the United States constitution and knock the prohibitory and local option laws of a state into a cocked hat. Now in order to get rid of the licensed saloon and the original package saloon, the friends of good government, north and south, must get together in one grand, national non-sectional political party, the purpose of which must be to give the people an honest government. When the good, honest people of this country unite in such a party and elect its nominees, then they will be able to destroy the power of the liquor traffic, secure clean and fair elections, stop the spoliation of the people by speculation, make proper provisions for the prosperity not only of farmers and laborers but of all honest, industrious citizens, and all the other great reforms that the nation needs. The great question now, is the union of all the friends of good government in one non-sectional, national party.

We hear of some dissatisfied farmers who still say they must stay in the old party and force it. Well that is just it. You have been staying in the old party for these many years to force it, and

now you are feeling the force of it, for it is the bosses of the old parties that are forcing you by keeping you blind so that you cannot see the force of the old party legislation that is forcing you to sell your corn for 15 cents per bushel, and then give a mortgage on your cows and horses to get money to pay your taxes. Did you ever force a horse to drink water if it was not inclined that way?

Gov. Humphrey postures as the champion of prohibition. He has pardoned more whisky sellers than any of his predecessors.—*Lawrence Daily Record*.

While the Governor was handing out his ready-made pardon to whisky sellers why did he not remember one who served in Andersonville as a prisoner? Is gubernatorial clemency to be extended only to those who can furnish delegations of prominent citizens, and who keep hotels?—*Lawrence Daily Record*.

That's it. You see the temperance vote must be kept solid to save the party. For this purpose the law executors of the party must whoop up somebody. So if some poor ex-Union soldier, or some colored fellow should violate the prohibitory law, they are prosecuted, convicted and punished, without benefit of pardon, then the temperance people are pointed to those convictions by the party managers and organs; hence they are led to believe that the law is being strictly enforced by the officials of the party. But if some of the tony whisky braves of the party, who are experts in the joint traffic, and skilled in handling the party whip, should violate the prohibitory law, their pardons are ready for them before they are convicted, so as to hold them solid in order to save the party. But the temperance people don't hear of these pardons through the party managers or its organs. Thus you see the managers in the whisky department of the party can tell the whisky bums they are safe under the administration of the party. And the managers of the temperance department of the party can tell the temperance people that the prohibitory law is all right under the administration of the party. Next comes to the front the pardoned criminal and other demagogues of the party, with their party whips, and say to the soldier who paid the full penalty of the law, "You must vote to save the party or you will get no service pension." And then they will say to the colored man who has also paid the full penalty of the law, "You must vote to save the party, otherwise you will go back into slavery."

The great Inter-Ocean a noted Republican mouth-piece has discovered the whole secret of the late original package decision, and in its attempt to reveal the secret it gets back to the election of Cleveland. Then it says that Cleveland placed two extreme states-rights men on the supreme bench. Otherwise the decision would not have been. Now, gentle folks, if the original package decision was based on the theory of Democratic states' rights, in the name of common sense, why was it that three Republicans concurred with the Democrats on the theory of state rights, and then decided against the rights of a state?

THE KANSAS AGITATOR will contain letters from the pens of some of some of the ablest reformers of the day. Subscribe now—only 50 cts. a year.

FRIENDS of reform, send us items—let us know what you are doing.

Shylock owns a million monkeys scattered all over the west, and they make the cats (the farmers) pull chestnuts out of the fire for them. These monkeys make the laws, own the courts and sheriffs and wear stove-pipe hats and high collars, and pass for respectables just as the old slave drivers did.—*Iowa Tribune*.

Yes, and just as long as the farmers and laborers of this country continue to wear the old party collar, Shylock's monkeys will continue to increase, and the only way to get rid of those monkeys is for all honest people to fall in line with a united reform party that has none of those Shylock monkeys in it.

To the Temperance People of Kansas.

Once more the contest between the whisky power and the home of the people is on in Kansas. Catching at the excuse made for them by the supreme court, without waiting for the action of congress, the liquor dealers from Missouri, that elysium of bad whisky and adulterated beer, are sent as agents to open original package houses in every town in Kansas. The outrage of the presence of these agents, violating the sentiment of our people regardless of their laws, has aroused the just indignation of all citizens. These agents came to Kansas to break down the good work of years and to build up a defense for the open saloon which their Kansas supporters, the re-submissionists, are trying to make possible. The saloon knows no law, human or divine, except force. It obeys no mandate of men or courts that does not menace it with the county jail. The saloon keeper will never hesitate to sell to minors or to the poor fellow struggling with a craze for strong drink against which he may have battled for years. The man who sells liquor over a counter, whether under the guise of an original package agent, a bar-keeper, or the sneaking proprietor of a subterranean joint, is an enemy to the good order of every community, and as the mercenary agent or proprietor he fills the community with drunken rows, poverty and crime, and should be driven out. Kansas has the laws on her statute books which to-day will assist the officers of the law and the courts in closing up every place where liquor is sold as a beverage if the public sentiment of the various communities will rally to their support in a strong and emphatic manner.

Put these Missouri whisky agents on the legal rack and keep them there. If a sympathetic Foster comes to their rescue put them there again and again until the expense of litigation forces their principals in Missouri and Milwaukee to seek more profitable fields. Kansas is a good field in which to make the battle. We can help Nebraska by showing the people there that whisky with its barrel of money is not as great as the sentiment of an indignant people. The brag and bluster of whisky will weaken before determined officers of the law. A few days in jail with heavy costs and bonds to give will cool the smart Alecks even if backed by the United States district court. We believe the time has come for the temperance people to move all along the line. Don't make any mistake and resort to mob law, but put these scoundrels on the wheel of the law and break their backs with continual prosecutions. Stand by your county attorneys, your sheriffs and your judges. Go into the contest to remain in it until no agent will dare to open a house for the sale of liquor in any sized package. The humbug of these fellows pretending to comply with the supreme court decision is apparent. They will sell in any sized package that means profit and an evasion of the law. The people of Kansas have no war to make upon the United States supreme court; congress will take care of that. Our

business is to take care of our own affairs here in the state and to enforce the statute laws we have that will reach these agents, their proprietors, or men who rent them buildings. The temperance people of Kansas should stand shoulder to shoulder and drive these border ruffians from Missouri out of the state.—*Topeka Capital*.

Prohibition State Convention.

The Prohibition state convention will be held at Mc Pherson, July 3d and 4th.

Half rates on railroads and at hotels have been secured.

Gov. St. John will deliver an address on Thursday evening, July 3d. The Potter family will furnish music.

Let the Prohibitionists of each county select delegates as early as possible.

Resolutions Passed by the Ministerial Association of Wichita, May 26th.

Resolved, that we, the Ministerial Association of Wichita, consider the re-submission agitation, the main inspiration of which comes from the Wichita press and politicians, as not only a dishonor to Wichita, but a very great detriment to her material interests.

Resolved, That we consider it an astonishing example of hardihood and audacity on the part of the handful of re-submissionists at the Topeka conference, on the 23d, to call themselves "the business men of Kansas," when but a small fraction of the business men are re-submissionists.

Resolved, That we feel deeply humiliated over the action of Mayor Clement at Topeka, on the 23d, and his public advocacy of re-submission, which is a movement in the interest of the liquor cause, in which action our mayor misrepresents the moral sentiment of Wichita.

Resolved, That we send greeting to Gov. Humphrey, and congratulate him on his firm stand for prohibition as the settled policy of Kansas.

Notice to F. M. B. A.

The county assembly will meet at Garnett, in Walstaff's Hall, on Saturday, June 14th, at 10 o'clock a. m. As this will be a session of great importance, it is earnestly requested that each lodge shall be represented. All lodges please send in the name of secretary and postoffice address.

J. M. NEVILLE, Sec'y.

EXCHANGE ECHOES.

The Topeka Advocate persists in asking the friends of John J. to name that one single act in all his senatorial career that is of benefit to the general producing masses. Silence and ridicule are thus far all the reply.—*Nonconformist*.

Every time a farmer makes a quitclaim deed to the mortgagee to save cost of suit and an extra judgment against him if the land should fail to bring face of mortgage at sheriff's sale (as it usually does), the Republican press gets up a yell, in chorus, of "Glory! Hallelujah! Another mortgage paid off and released! Kansas is getting out of debt!"—*Jeffersonian*.

We have been thinking for some time that Senator Ingalls had too many irons in the fire. His study of French literature absorbs so much of his time that it would be unreasonable to ask him to do anything for his constituents.—*Topeka Advocate*.

THE late meeting of the Kansas State Temperance Union tried to whitewash Gov. Humphrey in the matter of the pardon of M. Conn, the self-confessed violator of the prohibitory law. But the wash will never cover up the black spot. Never.—*Ottawa Lever*.